THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) After the exploration phase, starting of production from any area depends on techno-commercial factors such as, the reservoir characteristics, the quality of hydrocarbons, the prices of oil and gas, the infrastructure availability and the logistics. There is also a lead time between a discovery during exploration phase and the production of hydro-carbons. The reserves from the areas where appraisal is under progress, or which are not viable for production at present, are not significant, around 5% or so.

Jatar Committee report

†3196. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jatar Committee has since submitted its report to Government on the Gandhar oil well fire in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the comprehensive details of the inquiry report and whether Government have taken any action on this report so far; and

(c) if so, the details thereof; and if not, by when, the action is proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) Government has constituted a Committee headed by Major General (Retd.) S.C.N. Jatar, which is inquiring into the matter after the incident of fire at Well No. G-345, Gandhar field on ONGC. The Committee submitted its interim report on Gandhar fire to the Government on 30.1.2002. The Committee has thereafter submitted the second and third volume of report on 29.03.2002 to the Government on Gandhar field, Ankleshwar Assets and on Western offshore, Mumbai Region on ONGC. These reports are being examined by the Government. The term of the Committee has been extended upto 31.05.2002 so as to enable the Committee to submit the final report.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.